

**REDACTED DOCUMENT**

Portions of this document are protected from public disclosure pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA"), 5 U.S.C. §552(b), exemption number:

(check all that apply)

- ☐ 1. national security
- ☐ 2. internal personnel rules and practices of an agency
- ☐ 3. prohibited from disclosure by another federal statute:  
(specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ 4. confidential trade secrets and/or commercial/financial information
- ☐ 5. inter-agency and/or intra-agency communications:  
(specify)
  - ☐ deliberative process
  - ☐ attorney-client privilege
  - ☐ attorney work product
  - ☐ settlement negotiation privilege
  - ☐ other privilege: (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- ☒ 6. personal privacy
- ☐ 7. information compiled for law enforcement purposes where disclosure could reasonable be expected to:  
(specify)
  - ☐ A. interfere with enforcement proceedings
  - ☐ B. deprive a person of the right to a fair trial or impartial adjudication
  - ☐ C. constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy
  - ☐ D. disclose a confidential source
  - ☐ E. risk circumvention of the law because of disclosure of law enforcement guidelines or procedures
  - ☐ F. endanger the life or physical safety of any individual
- ☐ 9. oil and gas well information



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION IX  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

DEC 17 1998

Certified Mail: P350 643 936  
Return Receipt Requested

[REDACTED]

Re: Request for Information  
Waste Disposal Inc. Superfund Site  
Santa Fe Springs, CA

[REDACTED]

As you probably are aware, the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") is spending public funds to investigate and respond to actual or threatened releases of hazardous substances at the Waste Disposal, Inc. ("WDI") Superfund Site in Santa Fe Spring, California ("Site"). A Superfund site is a site contaminated with hazardous substances that may present a threat to human health or the environment. EPA is conducting this investigation to determine the nature and extent of contamination in the area, to assess the effects of contamination on the environment and public health, to determine the appropriate remedy and its engineering design, and to identify activities and parties that contributed to contamination in the area. EPA believes that current and/or former owners of property at the Site might have information which may assist the Agency in its investigation and is therefore sending this letter to you and also to several other property owners. The purpose of our letter to you is to request information you may have pertaining to this Site.

Under Section 104(e) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act ("CERCLA"), 42 U.S.C. § 9604(e), EPA has broad information gathering authority which allows EPA to require persons to furnish information or documents relating to:

- (A) The identification, nature, and quantity of materials which have been or are generated, treated, stored, or disposed of at a facility or transported to a facility.
- (B) The nature or extent of a release or threatened release of a hazardous substance or pollutant or contaminant at or from a facility.
- (C) Information relating to the ability of a person to pay for or perform an environmental cleanup.

We encourage you to give this matter your immediate attention and request that you provide a

complete and truthful response to this Information Request and attached questions (Enclosure B) within thirty (30) calendar days of your receipt of this letter. Please note that false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or representations may subject you to civil or criminal penalties under federal law, and noncompliance with this request could result in EPA seeking the imposition of penalties of up to \$27,500 per day of noncompliance.

Some of the information EPA is requesting may be considered by you to be confidential. Please be aware that you may not withhold the information upon that basis. If you wish EPA to treat the information confidentially, you must advise EPA of that fact by following the procedures outlined in Enclosure A, including the requirement for supporting your claim for confidentiality.

This request for information is not subject to review by the Office of Management and Budget ("OMB") under the Paperwork Reduction Act because it is not an "information collection request" within the meaning of 44 U.S.C. §§3502(4) and (11), 3507, 3512, and 3518. Furthermore, it is exempt from OMB review under the Paperwork Reduction Act because it is directed to fewer than ten persons. 44 U.S.C. §3502(4), (11); 5 C.F.R. §1320.5(a).

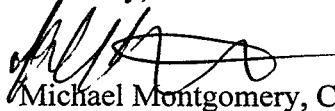
Instructions on how to respond to the questions are described in Enclosure A. Please return your written response to this request for information, signed by you or a duly authorized official of your company, within 30 calendar days of receipt of this letter. Please direct your response to:

Kim Muratore (SFD-7-B)  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, California 94105

Your response should include the appropriate name, address, and telephone number of the person to whom EPA should direct future correspondence in regard to this matter on your behalf. If you have questions regarding this information request, please contact Ms. Muratore at (415) 744-2373. If you have questions about the history of the Site, the nature of the environmental conditions at the Site, or the status of cleanup activities, please contact the Remedial Project Manager ("RPM") Andria Benner at (415) 744-2361. Please direct any legal questions to Kathy Steuer at (415) 744-1316.

We appreciate and look forward to your prompt response to this information request.

Sincerely,

  
Michael Montgomery, Chief  
AZ/CA Section  
Superfund Cleanup Branch

## ENCLOSURE A: INSTRUCTIONS AND DEFINITIONS

### Instructions:

1. Answer Every Question Completely. A separate response must be made to each of the questions set forth in this Information Request. For each question contained in this letter, if information responsive to this Information Request is not in your possession, custody, or control, please identify the person(s) from whom such information may be obtained.
2. Number Each Answer. When answering the questions in Enclosure B, please precede each answer with the corresponding number of the question to which it responds.
3. Number Each Document. For each document produced in response to this Information Request, indicate on the document, or in some other reasonable manner, the number of the question to which it corresponds.
4. Provide the Best Information Available. Provide responses to the best of your ability, even if the information sought was never put down in writing or if the written documents are no longer available. You should seek out responsive information from current and former employees/agents or tenants at your property. Submission of cursory responses when other responsive information is available to the Respondent will be considered non-compliance with this Information Request.
5. Identify Sources of Answer. For each question, identify (see Definitions) all the persons and documents that you relied on in producing your answer.
6. Continuing Obligation to Provide/Correct Information. If additional information or documents responsive to this Request become known or available to you after you respond to this Request, EPA hereby requests pursuant to CERCLA Section 104(e) that you supplement your response to EPA.
7. Scope of Request. The scope of this request includes all information and documents independently developed or obtained by research on the part of your company, its attorneys, consultants or any of their agents, consultants or employees.
8. Confidential Information. The information requested herein must be provided even though you may contend that it includes confidential information or trade secrets. You may assert a confidentiality claim covering part or all of the information requested, pursuant to Sections 104(e)(7)(E) and (F) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §§9604(e)(7)(E) and (F), and Section 3007(b) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. §6927(b), and 40 C.F.R. §2.203(b).

If you make a claim of confidentiality for any of the information you submit to EPA, you must prove that claim. For each document or response you claim confidential, you must separately address the following points:

1. clearly identify the portions of the information alleged to be entitled to confidential treatment;

2. the period of time for which confidential treatment is desired (e.g., until a certain date, until the occurrence of a specific event, or permanently);
3. measures taken by you to guard against the undesired disclosure of the information to others;
4. the extent to which the information has been disclosed to others, and the precautions taken in connection therewith;
5. pertinent confidentiality determinations, if any, by EPA or other federal agencies, and a copy of any such determinations or reference to them, if available; and
6. whether you assert that disclosure of the information would likely result in substantial harmful effects on your business' competitive position, and if so, what those harmful effects would be, why they should be viewed as substantial, and an explanation of the causal relationship between disclosure and such harmful effects.

To make a confidentiality claim, please stamp, or type, "confidential" on all confidential responses and any related confidential documents. Confidential portions of otherwise nonconfidential documents should be clearly identified. You should indicate a date, if any, after which the information need no longer be treated as confidential. Please submit your response so that all nonconfidential information, including any redacted versions of documents are in one envelope and all materials for which you desire confidential treatment are in another envelope.

All confidentiality claims are subject to EPA verification. It is important that you satisfactorily show that you have taken reasonable measures to protect the confidentiality of the information and that you intend to continue to do so, and that it is not and has not been obtainable by legitimate means without your consent. Information covered by such claim will be disclosed by EPA only to the extent permitted by CERCLA Section 104(e). If no such claim accompanies the information when it is received by EPA, then it may be made available to the public by EPA without further notice to you.

9. Disclosure to EPA's Authorized Representatives. Information which you submit in response to this Information Request may be disclosed by EPA to authorized representatives of the United States, pursuant to 40.C.F.R. 2.310(h), even if you assert that all or part of it is confidential business information. The authorized representatives of EPA to which EPA may disclose information contained in your response are as follows:

1. Armstrong Data Services  
EPA Contract Number 68-W5-0024
2. Department of Toxic Substances Control/California  
Environmental Protection Agency
3. Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC)  
EPA Contract Number 68-W4-0021

Any subsequent additions or changes in EPA contractors who may have access to your response to this Information Request will be published in the Federal Register. This information may be made available to these authorized representatives of EPA for any of the following reasons: to assist with document handling, inventory, and indexing; or to assist the State of California in pursuing its own cost recovery action. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. §2.310(h), you may submit comments on EPA's disclosure of any confidential information contained in your response by EPA to its authorized representatives along with the response itself, within the thirty (30) calendar day period in which the response is due.

10. Objections to Questions. If you have objections to some or all of the questions contained in the Information Request letter, you are still required to respond to each of the questions.

Definitions:

1. The term "you" or should be interpreted to include the addressee of this Information Request, the addressee's officers, managers, employees, contractors, trustees, successors, assigns and agents.
2. The term "person" shall include any individual, firm, unincorporated association, partnership, corporation, trust, joint venture, or other entity.
3. The term "waste" or "wastes" shall mean and include trash, garbage, refuse, by-products, solid waste, hazardous waste, hazardous substances, and pollutants or contaminants, whether solid, liquid, or sludge.
4. The term "hazardous waste" shall have the same definition as that contained in Section 1004(5) of RCRA.
5. The term "hazardous substance" shall have the same definition as that contained in Section 101(14) of CERCLA, and includes any mixtures of such hazardous substances with any other substances, including mixtures of hazardous substances with petroleum products or other nonhazardous substances.
6. The term "release" has the same definition as that contained in Section 101(22) of CERCLA, and includes any spilling, leaking, pumping, pouring, emitting, emptying, discharging, injecting, escaping, leaching, dumping or disposing into the environment, including the abandonment or discharging of barrels, containers and other closed receptacles containing any hazardous substance or pollutant or contaminant.
7. The term "pollutant or contaminant" shall have the same definition as that contained in Section 101(33) of CERCLA and include any mixtures of such pollutants and contaminants with any other substance including petroleum products.
8. The term "materials" shall mean all substances that have been generated, treated, stored, or disposed of or otherwise handled at or transported to the Site including, but not limited to, all hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants.

9. The term "documents" includes any written, recorded, computer generated or visually or aurally reproduced material of any kind in any medium in your possession, custody, or control or known by you to exist, including originals, all prior drafts, and all non-identical copies.

## ENCLOSURE B: QUESTIONS

1. Please state the dates that you owned Parcels [REDACTED] hereafter known as "the property" or "your property", and explain how you came to acquire or have control over your property (e.g., purchase, inheritance, etc.). For your information and use, enclosed is a copy of a WDI Site map, indicating all of the parcels comprising the WDI Site, including your property.
2. If your property is currently owned by a Trust, please provide the following information:
  - a. Provide the name of the Trust, the trustees, trustors, and beneficiaries.
  - b. Provide a copy of the Trust agreement and any attachments.
  - c. Explain the purpose of the Trust, who created it, and the date on which it was created.
3. Please provide a chronological history of each use made of or operation conducted at your property during each of the years that you owned or had control over the property.
  - a) If you or another person operated/used the property, describe each use made of the property, including the following:
    - 1) the business name by which the property was used/operated
    - 2) the nature of the operation/use
    - 3) the years of such use/operation
  - b) If you leased or otherwise allowed the use/operation of the property by another entity, describe each use made of the property, including the following:
    - 1) the name of the entity using/operating on the property
    - 2) the nature of the operation/use
    - 3) a copy of the agreement/contract or other vehicle authorizing the use.
    - 4) the last known address and telephone number of the entity using/operating on the property
    - 5) the years of such use/operation
4. For each use/operation by you or another entity of the property, please answer the following:
  - a) Were any wastes generated by each use?
  - b) Describe the wastes generated as specifically as possible (e.g., polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), volatile organic compounds (VOCs), types of solvents, names of metals, types of petroleum wastes, and so on)
  - c) Describe how each waste was disposed of and provide copies of any documents you have pertaining to the



treatment or disposal of these wastes(i.e., invoices, contracts, manifests, memoranda, correspondence and financial records).

5. Please provide copies of any applications for or permits received under any local, state or federal environmental laws and regulations, including any waste discharge permits, such as NPDES permits by anyone using/operating upon your property.
6. For each use made of your property, please describe and diagram any locations on your property that were used to store or dispose of wastes and the years of such use, the type of such waste stored or disposed, the ultimate disposition of the wastes being stored, and the nature and name of the business that was operating/using the property at the time.
7. Please identify all leaks, spills, or releases into the environment of any hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants that have occurred at or from the your property covering all of the years that you owned or had control over the property. In addition, please identify:
  - a. When such releases occurred;
  - b. How the releases occurred;
  - c. The amount and chemical nature of each hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant so released;
  - d. Where such releases occurred;
  - e. Any and all activities undertaken in response to each such release or threatened release, including the notification of any agencies or governmental units about the release.
8. Please describe in as much detail as possible the extent of your knowledge of any contamination on your property at the time you acquired or took control over it. If you took any steps to conduct due diligence or to otherwise investigate your property and/or any potential pollution or contamination on your property before you acquired or took control over it, please describe those steps, and provide any documents related to them.
9. Please describe in as much detail as possible the extent of your knowledge at the time that you acquired your property of any dumping or disposal activities that were then occurring or had previously occurred on properties other than your own that were part of the WDI Site (see attached map for parcels comprising the WDI Site). If applicable, please diagram the locations of the dumping or disposal on the enclosed Site map.
10. Please describe in as much detail as possible any dumping or disposal activities that occurred on properties comprising the WDI Site other than your own during the time that you

owned or had control over your property. Include the following information, if known, and any other information you consider to be relevant:

- a. When such disposal(s) occurred;
  - b. How the disposal(s) occurred;
  - c. What the substance that was disposed of or placed at the Site looked like, including its color, texture, thickness, etc.
  - d. The amount and chemical nature of each hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant disposed;
  - e. Where such disposal(s) occurred;
  - f. The identity of the person or company disposing of the waste or causing it to be disposed of
  - g. Any and all activities undertaken in response to each such disposal, including the notification of any agencies or governmental units about the disposal.
11. If you have ever found any wastes or hazardous substances on your property, please describe what steps you have taken concerning those wastes, and whether they remain on your property.
12. If digging beneath the surface (other than that undertaken by EPA or others working under EPA direction) or construction activities have taken place on your property, please state when these activities occurred, whether you encountered wastes, or substances other than soils below ground, and, if so, what you found.
13. If you are aware of any tanks below ground on your property or anywhere else on other properties comprising the WDI Site, please describe the tanks in detail, including their exact location and how you come to know of their existence.
14. Please provide information about your property, including but not limited to the following:
- a. Location of underground utilities and structures (telephone, electrical, sewer, septic tanks, fuel or other tanks, water main, storm water drainage system, etc.)
  - b. All maps and drawings, and photographs of the Site in your possession.
  - c. Copies of any environmental reports/documents relating to your property.
15. Please identify any persons who you believe might have knowledge about the historical operations of the WDI site (not just your parcels) or information about who might have disposed of wastes at the Site or transported wastes to the the Site.
16. Please identify those individuals who assisted in the preparation of this information response. For each

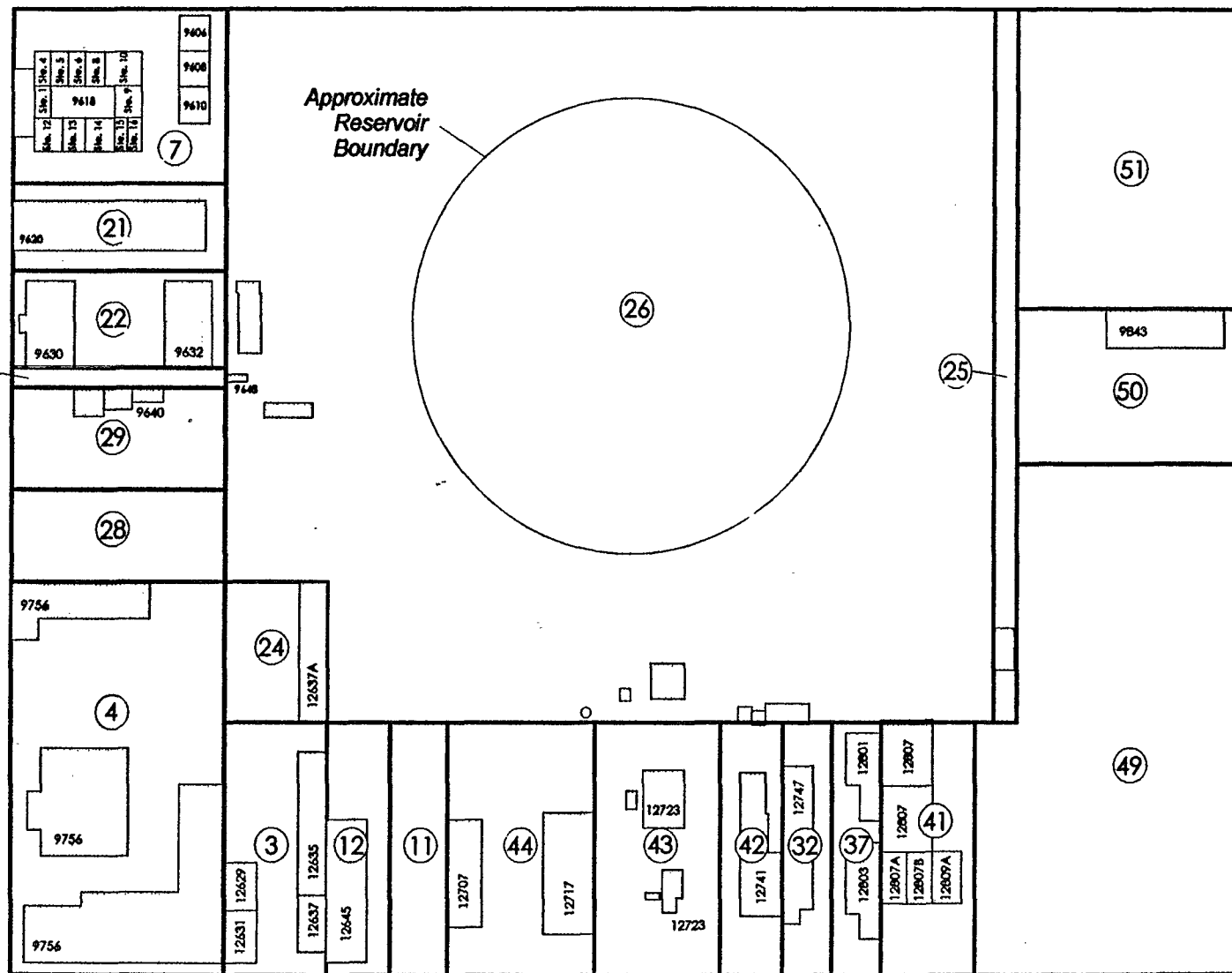
individual, provide the following: name, current or last known address and telephone number, dates of employment, and current and former job titles.

17. If you have any reason to believe that there may be persons able to provide a more detailed or complete response to any part of this information request or who may be able to provide additional responsive documents, please identify such persons.

# WASTE DISPOSAL, INC SANTA FE SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA

SANTA FE SPRINGS RD.

GREENLEAF AVE.



LOS NIETOS RD.